Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 031773

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ORIGIN SS-10

SECRET

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY EA:RHMILLER:MHS APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER S/S-O - PSHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

SECRETSTATE 031773

EXDIS, TOSEC 107

FOL REPEAT PHNOM PENH 02564 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO CINCPAC COMUSSAG NAKHOM PHANOM THAI FEB 11

QTE

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 2564

EXDIS

DEPT ALSO PASS IMMEDIATE INFO CJCS WASHDC; SECDEF WASHDC; NSC THE WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MASS, MMOL, CB, US

SUBJECT: AMMUNITION RESUPPLY PROBLEM GROWING MORE CRITICAL DAILY

REF: JCS 110037Z FEB 75

- 1. WE CURRENTLY HAVE IN PHNOM PENH APPROXIMATELY A 13-DAY SUPPLY OF AMMUNITION FOR FANK AT THE MINIMUM RATE OF CONSUMPTION POSSIBLE UNDER PRESENT COMBAT CONDITIONS.
- 2. DESPITE THE BIRD AIR RESUPPLY EFFORT, CURRENTLY RUNNING SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 031773

AT THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF NINE AIRLAND AMMO RESUPPLY

SORTIES PER DAY, BY 16 FEBRUARY WE WILL BE REDUCED TO THE FOLLOWING LEVELS OF CRITICAL TYPES OF AMMUNITION:

LR

PSS G DAYS OF SUPPLY 105 MM HOWITZER 6 MORTAR 8 SMALL ARMS 12 ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS 0

3. IT IS EVIDENT FROM THE ABOVE THAT ONE WEEK FROM TODAY WE WILL HAVE FALLEN TO SUCH A CRITICALLY LOW LEVEL OF AMMUNITION SUPPLY THAT THE FANK WILL LIKELY COLLAPSE. IT WILL BE AT LEAST A WEEK BEFORE THE BIRD AIR EFFORT CAN BE DOUBLED TO UP TO 20 SORTIES PER DAY. THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEKONG RIVER CONVOY IS FEB. 18, A WEEK FROM TODAY, AND AS EVERYONE IS AWARE, ITS CHANCES OF REACHING PHNOM PENH ARE PROBLEMATICAL. EVEN IF IT MAKES IT HERE, IT WILL BRING US ONLY FOUR DAYS' SUPPLY OF AMMUNITION.

4. ALL OF THE ABOVE FACTS ADD UP TO ONE CONCLUSION, WHICH IS THAT A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY AIRLIFT OF AMMUNITION BEYOND WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED BY BIRD AIR IS ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO KEEP PHNOM PENH FROM FALLING TO THE ENEMY. WE NEED UP TO 40 REPEAT 40 AIRLAND SORTIES PER DAY INTO POCHENTONG. DEAN

UNQTE INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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To: JERUSALEM

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